

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
JUNE 25, 2003**

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman; J. David Cubbage; Laurence Mason; Ann McCarty; Garrett Moore; Gary Nelson; Sam Poles and Liz Cook.

Members Absent: Sharon Grove McCamy

Guests Present: Kevin Carter and George Fetterer

Staff Present: Fran Williams

Matthew Smith introduced Gary Nelson, Scott District representative, and welcomed him to the Committee.

1. Approval of May 28, 2003 Committee Meeting Minutes.

On motion made by Sam Poles and seconded by Ann McCarty it was moved to approve the May 28, 2003 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider a Petition to Lower the Speed Limit on Belvoir Road (Route 709) Between Routes 17 and 55 – George M. Fetterer.

George Fetterer expressed concern because of the increased truck traffic travelling through the Village of Belvoir and the fact that many of the homes are close to the road. Mr. Fetterer stated that a number of citizens who live in this area are elderly, one is legally blind and another suffers from Parkinson's disease. **Garrett Moore will meet with Mr. Fetterer next week and the Committee will discuss this matter at next month's meeting.**

3. Consider Truck Speed and Noise Concerns on Route 17 North of Warrenton – Kevin Carter, Airlie Center.

Kevin Carter, General Manager of the Airlie Foundation discussed his concerns regarding truck speeding and noise on Route 17 north of Warrenton. Mr. Carter stated that Airlie Foundation employs approximately 165 persons and usually has 300 to 400 clients per day who visit their facility. Mr. Carter stated that speeding along this portion of Route 17 presents a safety concern for those individuals travelling to and from the Airlie Conference Center.

Matthew Smith stated that there are certain regulations the State follows and he doubts that the State would want to reduce the speed limit on a four-lane divided highway. Mr. Smith stated that this may be more of a law enforcement issue.

Garrett Moore stated that this road was designed for truck traffic, but he will take a look at lengthening the deceleration lane.

Liz Cook will contact Sheriff Joe Higgs to notify him of Mr. Carter's concerns and ask if his office has any plans for increased enforcement of the speed limit in this area.

Garrett Moore will meet with Mr. Carter next week to determine any further steps that may be necessary.

4. Consider Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on Noise Abatement Signage.

Liz Cook stated that Paul McCulla, County Attorney, has sent a draft of possible changes to the Noise Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors but has not received a response.

Garrett Moore will check to see if VDOT will allow the erection of signs in their rights-of way and if they can be installed by permit.

On motion made by Per Bang-Jensen and seconded by Ann McCarty it was moved to recommend that the Warrenton VDOT Residency office contact Richmond to see if signs can be erected in Fauquier County by permit. If VDOT determines that this can be done the Committee will recommend that the Board of Supervisors move forward to post signs in the Warrenton area along Route 29. If VDOT determines this cannot be done the Committee will recommend that this issue be referred to the Public Safety Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Receive an Update on the Following:

A. Access Issues at Routes 610 and 28 in the Midland Service District.

Garrett Moore stated that a safety audit has been conducted at this location and turn lanes may be needed, but there are no funds available at this time. ***Mr. Moore will look into the possibility of upgrading the guardrails.***

B. Condition of Botha Road (Route 661).

Garrett Moore stated that VDOT has visited this site several times because of complaints about mud being on the road and vegetation being in the right-of-way. Mr. Moore stated that no mud was seen on the road during these site visits. Mr. Moore stated that if any further complaints are received he will go to the site along with the person making the complaint.

Mr. Moore stated that wet weather has delayed the mowing in this area, but it has been scheduled for July as part of the annual mowing contract.

C. School Bus Stop Signage on Route 17 near Morgansburg Road (Route 653).

Garrett Moore stated that the signs have been installed and asked to be notified of any further concerns.

D. Savannah Branch Road (Route 668) Bridge Guardrail Extension.

Garrett Moore stated that a site visit has been made and currently there is not adequate embankment for the guardrail to be replaced. Mr. Moore stated that it will take approximately 12 to 18 months to build up the bank since this will require environmental approval and may have to be considered as part of a possible bridge rehabilitation project. The road would have to be closed for a few days.

E. Signage for Hume Exit from U.S. Route 66.

Garrett Moore stated that VDOT does not have the funding to install the large signs at this time, but will put up smaller signs. Mr. Moore stated that he will keep this request in mind if the larger signs are scheduled to be replaced.

F. Condition of Hume Road (Route 635) Between Crest Hill Road (Route 647) and Leeds Manor Road (Route 688).

Garrett Moore stated that the road has been patched. Mr. Moore stated that this area needs asphalt plant mix overlay and will be placed on the priority list for paving. Mr. Moore further stated that paving funds have been limited and there will be other secondary roads ahead of it that are in worse shape (i.e., Fauquier Springs Road).

G. Brush Clearing at the Route 17/66 Exit at Delaplane.

Garrett Moore stated that this work is scheduled to be completed next week.

6. Other Items.

Dave Cubbage stated that he is compiling a list of e-mail addresses for those who wish to be notified of road closures.

Ann McCarty stated that Harry Atherton has asked about having the vegetation cut back and increasing the shoulders along Ramey Road (Route 732). Garrett Moore stated that he will be making a site visit tomorrow and the trimming should start next week. Mr. Moore stated that the ditch work should begin in July.

Sam Poles stated that John Collins who lives on Dixon's Mill Road (Route 732) has contacted him about the condition of this road. Mr. Collins has indicated that this road is in need of grading and additional gravel. ***Garrett Moore will check on the condition of this road.***

Sam Poles stated that two citizens who live along Moss Hollow Road (Route 728) have expressed concern about a clogged culvert and that the road needs to be graded. ***Garrett Moore will check on the condition of this road.***

Sam Poles stated that a tree was blown down along the intersection of Leeds Manor Road (Route 688) and Hume Road (Route 635) and would like to have it removed. ***Garrett Moore will check on this.***

Sam Poles stated that there is standing water near the railroad on Leeds Manor Road (Route 688). Mr. Poles expressed concern that this could become a dangerous patch of ice during the winter months. ***Garrett Moore will check on this.***

Sam Poles stated that there is a clogged culvert on Leeds Manor Road (Route 688) near Jimmy Green's property (Morven). ***Garrett Moore will check on this.***

Liz Cook stated that the 'Coalition Against Bigger Trucks' has requested that letters be sent to Senator John Warner in support of opposing any federal legislation that would increase the size and weight configurations of tractor trailers presently operating on our nation's highways, including proposals for heavier trucks on Interstate 81.

On motion made by Matthew Smith and seconded by Ann McCarty it was moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors send a letter to Senator John Warner in support of this request. The motion carried unanimously.

Liz Cook stated that she has received a call about Grigsby Road (formerly Hidden Lane) being "grandfathered" for repairs and asked the Committee if anyone recalled any discussion about this matter.

Per Bang-Jensen stated that no new roads are being accepted for repairs and that there are no funds available for repairs at this time.

Matthew Smith stated that a large yellow and black sign with arrows has been erected at the intersection of Germantown Road (Route 649) and Balls Mills Road (Route 663). Mr. Smith stated that he is not sure who installed the sign, but it is in the VDOT right-of-way. ***Garrett Moore will check on this matter.***

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.